

**Rear Admiral Karen Flaherty**  
**Senior Health Care Executive**  
**Deputy Surgeon General**  
**Deputy Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery**

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Rear Admiral Flaherty assumed duties as the Deputy Surgeon General of Navy Medicine at the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery as of August 6, 2010. Prior to these duties Rear Admiral Flaherty served as the 22nd Director of the Nurse Corps as well as the Deputy Chief, Wounded, Ill, and Injured at the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

Rear Admiral Flaherty is a native of Winsted, Connecticut, and joined the United States Navy as a Nurse Corps Candidate in July 1973. Upon graduation from Skidmore College, she attended Officer Indoctrination School in Newport, Rhode Island, in August 1974.

Rear Admiral Flaherty's first assignment was Quantico Naval Hospital where she served as a staff nurse and charge nurse on the Surgical ward, Orthopedic ward, and the Maximum Care Unit. Upon transfer to the Philadelphia Naval Medical Center in 1977, she assumed the duties as charge nurse for the General Surgery Unit and the Obstetric and Gynecology clinic. Rear Admiral Flaherty reported for duty as the Officer Programs Officer for Naval Recruiting Command, Navy Recruiting District New Jersey in 1979. She transitioned to the Naval Reserve in 1982.

RADM Flaherty's subsequent reserve tours included assignments to numerous Naval Hospitals and Fleet Hospital commands. In her distinguished career she has served as Commanding Officer Fleet Hospital Fort Dix, Executive Officer, Director of Nursing Services, Officer-in-Charge, and Training Officer. In February 1991, she was recalled to serve with Fleet Hospital 15, Al Jubail, Saudi Arabia, in support of *Operation Desert Shield/Storm*. She served as CO OPNAV 093 prior to assuming Flag duties as the Deputy Commander Force Integration National Capital Area and the Deputy Chief for Health Care Operations at the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.

Rear Admiral Flaherty received her Masters of Science from the University of Pennsylvania and has held senior executive leadership positions at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, St. Francis Hospital in Wilmington, Delaware, and the Philadelphia Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Rear Admiral Flaherty is authorized to wear the Legion of Merit (two awards), Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (two awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Meritorious Unit Citation (two awards), National Defense Service Medal (three awards), Humanitarian Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Service Ribbon, and Saudi Arabia and Kuwait Liberation Medals.